FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 AUGUST 1983

Lebanon

Damascus television broadcast an announcer-read version of an interview granted by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Washington Post*, in which Al-Asad insisted Syria will not withdraw from Lebanon until Israel withdraws without any preconditions. Al-Asad maintained that if the United States wants Syria to withdraw, it should make Israel implement the UN resolutions stipulating a total Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. Syrian withdrawal does not necessarily depend on the Palestinians regaining their rights, he added.

In response to a question on the chances of war with Israel, the Syrian leader acknowledged that war is possible because of Israel's "persistent desire for expansion and aggression." Nevertheless, it may be possible for Israel and the Arab world to coexist peacefully one day, he stated.

Al-Asad dismissed the talks held with U.S. envoy Robert McFarlane as not providing anything "new."

A Syrian paper, *Al-Ba'th*, editorial asserted that McFarlane is carrying out a campaign of "instigation and fabrication" against Syria, Damascus radio noted in its press review. McFarlane has forgotten that his instigations can create an "atmosphere of war" but he cannot undermine Syria's stand, the editorial concluded.

A second cease-fire was agreed on 14 August after the first failed to stop Druze forces from shelling Beirut and coastal areas, Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios reported. Despite a statement by a Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) spokesman, cited by Radio Monte Carlo 12 August, that Beirut airport could resume civil aviation, PSP leader Walid Junblatt told *As-Safir* that the PSP will not allow the airport to reopen until the PSP demands have been met, according to Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon. The PSP will not allow the Lebanese Army to enter the Ash-Shuf until an agreement is reached, Junblatt stated.

Al-Ba'th accused the Lebanese Government of provoking the Ash-Shuf clashes and urged Al-Jumayyil to respond positively to the Druze demands, Damascus radio stated in its press review.

Syrian officers are supervising the shelling of the airport and other areas, the Voice of Lebanon announced. Phalangist forces commander Fadi Afram warned the Syrians against continuing to try to overthrow the government and threatened to strike at Syrian bases, according to the radio.

Following a "sharp" message from Israel stating that the IDF will redeploy its forces in the Ash-Shuf without regard for developments in the area unless the Lebanese Government intervenes immediately, President al-Jumayyil decided to intervene directly in the Ash-Shuf Mountains, the Israeli paper *Ma'ariv* disclosed. Israel also warned Druze leaders against escalating the fighting with the Phalangist forces. Security sources cited by Jerusalem radio claimed Al-Jumayyil has softened his attitude toward the Druze and is ready to comply with some of their demands.

Meanwhile, the National Salvation Front adopted the 10 PSP demands submitted to the government last week, according to Damascus radio.

In a speech broadcast by Voice of Hope radio 13 August, Major Sa'd Haddad referred to rumors of an attempt on his life and stated that his enemies believe that killing him will solve their problems because they are not able to muster convincing arguments to persuade the people to their side. Maj Haddad did not confirm or deny the assassination attempt in the speech.

PLO Affairs

PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and Yar President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih are trying to arrange a meeting between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Fatah dissident leaders in Aden, the Jordanian paper *Sawt ash-Sha'b* and Radio Monte Carlo revealed. An Arab source cited by the radio stated that 'Arafat may agree provided the leaders attend as Fatah members and not as opposition leaders. The dissident delegation in Aden met with PLO representatives to discuss the aims of the movement, Damascus radio said.

Meanwhile, a "distinguished Palestinian source" confirmed news that dissident leader Colonel Sa'id Musa has been placed under house arrest in Damascus after "sharp differences" erupted between Col Musa and other leaders on resolving the Fatah dispute, according to the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Hadaf*. Amman Radio, citing reports from Beirut, announced that Col Musa was in the hospital after being wounded in an assassination attempt "last week."

Syria

Syria intelligence detained 12 Air Force officers in Damascus on charges of actions harming the state's security, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The radio also reported clashes between the Muslim Brotherhood and Syrian special forces in Homs and Dar'a.

Libya-Chad

In an interview with U.S. television networks, Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi again denied that Libyan forces are fighting in Chad and insisted that Libya is "neutral" in the dispute, according to JANA. Al-Qadhdhafi maintained that although Libya had supported Goukouni Oueddei's forces

in the past, it stopped this support "a long time ago." Libya not only has no forces in Chad but there are no forces deployed along the Chadian border, he stated. In response to a question on U.S. ships and aircraft in the area, the Libyan leader reiterated the warning that any U.S. aircraft deployed against Libya which "affects" it will be destroyed in "self-defense," JANA continued.

The Chadian Government called for direct U.S. and French intervention against "Libyan aggression" in a communique cited by AFP. President Hissein Habre also sent a letter to OAU Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, urging the OAU to convene a meeting on the Chad dispute "as soon as possible," AFP added. Former President Goukouni Oueddei also sent a letter to the OAU chairman, proclaiming his readiness to cooperate with the OAU in resolving the dispute, JANA reported. Meanwhile, the Chadian Government and the Transitional National Union Government of of Chad (GUNT) both declared their willingness to negotiate, according to AFP and Radio Bardai reports.

Chadian Information Minister Soumalia Mahamat claimed that Libya continued "heavy bombing" of Oum Chalouba, which had been recaptured earlier by government forces, AFP stated. Libyan planes also bombed Koro-Toro where the Chadian forces retreated after evacuating Faya-Largeau, a later AFP report added. A GUNT communique broadcast by Radio Bardai claimed that over 800 government troops were killed in the fighting at Faya-Largeau.

Additional French Troops may be sent to Chad, French Defense Minister Charles Hernu stated, according to AFP. In an interview broadcast by Paris radio, government spokesman Max Gallo emphasized France's concern over the situation and stated that France is adapting its policy in Chad as the situation evolves.

Meanwhile, the French paratroop commander in Chad confirmed that French troops had flown to Abeche in eastern Chad and asserted that if the troops are attacked, they will "defend themselves," Paris radio reported. Israeli military personnel are also in Chad as instructors for the Zairean Army, the Israeli paper *Ha'aretz* announced.

In separate developments, Secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi met GUNT's secretary for foreign affairs to discuss the current situation in Chad and bilateral relations, JANA reported. The Chadian ambassador to Algeria refused an order to return to Ndjamena after the Chadian Government recalled him in condemnation of Algeria's stand on the present conflict, JANA noted. The envoy stressed that he does not recognize the government as legitimate, JANA added.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Two Iraqi missile attacks on the Iranian town of Andimeshk on 13 August killed 27 and injured 200, Tehran radio reported.

In a "fierce battle" east of Zurbatiyah, Iraqi forces foiled an Iranian attack, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. An Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio reported Iranian troops continuing to strengthen their defensive positions on the Mehran front.

Saudi Arabia

In a statement to SPA, Saudi Pilgrimage and Awqaf Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab 'Abd al-Wasi rejected Iranian allegations that the Kingdom has refused to rent houses to Iranian pilgrims.

The Iranian threat to blockade the Strait of Hormuz if Iraq damages Iranian oil resources only reflects Iran's "hallucinations, madness, confusion, anxiety, and chaos," an *'Ukaz* article commented. The Gulf states still harbor high hopes that Iran will realize that its interests are not served by harming the security of the Gulf, the article added.

Pakistan

In a speech to the Federal Advisory Council in Islamabad broadcast by Karachi radio, President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq announced the decision to restore the 1973 Constitution amended to balance the president's and prime minister's powers and to conform with Islamic principles. He declared that local elections are "to be started now" and provincial and national elections to be completed by 23 March 1985. AFP reported from Islamabad that "thousands" demonstrated in the streets there and in other towns demanding a return to democracy. According to the report, over 200 opposition officials were arrested.

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'Internecine Fighting' Between Rebels Reported

OW141852 Paris AFP in English 1758 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 14 (AFP) — Internecine fighting between rival Afghan guerrillas has claimed about 250 lives in Wardak Province, sources close to the resistance said today.

They said a factional feud between mojahidin of the fundamentalist group Hezb-e Eslami led by Gulbuddin Hikmatyar and supporters of Abd ar-Rasul Sayyaf intensified during late July and took a heavy toll early this month.

Karachi on Mujahidin Attacks Near Ghazni, Kabul

BK150926 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin killed more than 80 Soviet-Karmal soldiers in an attack 30 km from Ghazni. They also reportedly destroyed or damaged several tanks during the attack. They also are reported to have killed or wounded many Soviet-Karmal soldiers in an ambush near Qandahar. They destroyed damaged several tanks and armored vehicles.

According to other reports, the mujahidin killed or wounded several Soviet-Karmal soldiers and destroyed a number of tanks and military vehicles in an operation in the suburbs of Kabul.

BAKHTAR: Government Subsidizing Pilgrims to Mecca

LD140545 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0437 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Kabul, August 13, BAKHTAR — The Government of the DRA is subsidising the travel costs and other charges of Afghan pilgrims.

Despite the fact that the fare and travelling costs for international flights have gone up and the actual travel cost for each pilgrim comes to over 87,000 Afghanis per pilgrim from Kabul to Jidda and return but with the subsidy of the Government of the DRA each pilgrim has to pay only 60,000 Afghanis.

A number of other concessions have also been given to them. For example, the pilgrims are exempted this year from paying 6,000 Afghanis which they used to pay in previous years for services provided by Islamic affairs department and one thousand Afghani as donation to the Red Crescent Society of the DRA.

These measures have been taken on the basis of the principles of the sacred Islamic religion and to facilitate and encourage as many Afghan Muslims as possible to undertake their haj pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca by air.

Leaders Send National Day Greetings to India

LD150601 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Kabul, August 14, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, and Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of Politburo of the PDPA CC and chairman of Council of Ministers of the DRA, have sent a congratulatory telegram to New Delhi addressed to Zail Singh, president, and Gandhi, prime minister, of the Republic of India on the occasion of the national day of India.

They have expressed confidence that the existing friendly and cordial relations and fruitful cooperation between the peoples and the governments of the two countries will be strengthened in the interest of the people of both countries and peace and security of the world.

Thai Prime Minister Concludes Visit 10 August

GF111110 Dubayy Khaleej Times in English 11 Aug 83 p 18

[By correspondent]

[Text] Dhaka — Thai Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon was accorded a hearty send off when he left for home yesterday at the end of a three-day goodwill visit to Bangladesh.

The chief martial law administrator, Lt-Gen H.M. Ershad, bade farewell to the distinguished guest at the Zia International Airport. He was also given a guard of honour by a contingent drawn from the three services.

Earlier addressing a press conference Gen Prem described his three-day visit to Bangladesh as "memorable" and "very satisfying," and hoped that it would further augment the existing bilateral relations between the two countries.

One of the main purposes of his visit, the Thai premier said, was to explore new avenues of cooperation as well as to strengthen the existing ones.

General Prem told a questioner that his country's proposal for withdrawal of foreign troops 30 kilometres from the Thai-Kampuchean border had been supported by the United States, EEC countries, Australia, New Zealand and Canada. Bangladesh had also extended support, to the proposal during General Prem's visit.

Replying to a question on the South Asian regional cooperation the Thai prime minister said he always supported the idea of regional cooperation. He said that Thailand and other ASEAN countries would be ready to cooperate with the new regional cooperation forum in South Asia.

General Prem, who arrived here on Monday on the last leg of his three-nation tour, held talks with Lt. Gen. Ershad on bilateral, regional and international issues.

The two leaders discussed the situation in Kampuchea, Afghanistan and West Asia, developments in Lebanon and fratricidal war between Iran and Iraq.

Reportage on Talks With Pakistani Foreign Minister

BK111316 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1100 GMT 11 Aug 83

[Text] Visiting Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and Bangladesh Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsud Doha had a formal meeting in Dhaka this morning. During the meeting, which lasted for more than an hour, they discussed bilateral, regional, and international issues.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman later said that during the meeting, which was held in an atmosphere of friendship and cordiality, the two foreign ministers held frank discussions on all aspects of bilateral relations. He said the two foreign ministers will hold further talks on various issues of mutual interest and on bilateral matters.

During the talks, Doha was assisted by Foreign Secretary Ataul Karim and Bangladesh's Ambassador to Pakistan Kazi Ghulam Dastgir. The Pakistani foreign minister was assisted by additional Foreign Secretary Abdus Sattar and Pakistani Ambassador to Dhaka Tanvir Ahmed Khan.

Before the talks, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan called on Doha; earlier he had visited the national martyrs mausoleum at Savar and placed wreaths there as a mark of respect for the martyrs of the freedom struggle.

Ershad-Yaqub Khan Meeting

BK120810 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, currently visiting Bangladesh, called on Chief Martial Law Administrator Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad in Dhaka yesterday evening.

A Pakistani spokesman said later that the talks were held in very friendly atmosphere and no contentious issue came up for discussion. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan conveyed to Lt Gen H.M. Ershad a message of good wishes from President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq. Reciprocating, the Bangladesh leader said there are great feelings of good will for the Pakistani president and its people in Bangladesh. He said it is a sincere wish of the Government and people of Bangladesh to further promote friendly relations with Pakistan and they are anxiously waiting for President Ziaul Haq's visit. After the meeting with the Bangladesh leader, the Pakistani delegation attended a reception at the headquarters mess.

Earlier, speaking at a luncheon after his talks with the Bangladesh foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that Pakistan is sincerely trying to promote a comprehensive political solution to the Afghan issue and it wants a legitimate solution based on the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan.

Bangladesh Foreign Minister Shamsud Doha said his country supports Pakistan's positive efforts at the UN-supervised indirect talks in Geneva for resolution of the Afghan issue.

The two foreign ministers expressed the keen resolve of their countries to strive for unity and solidarity of Islamic countries under the Islamic Conference Organization.

The two foreign ministers are signing a bilateral visa agreement today.

Yaqub Khan Comments

BK130235 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] The Pakistan foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said that his country wants to fortify brotherly ties with

Bangladesh and maintain close consultation on international issues which will contribute to peace and stability in the region. He was talking to newsmen at the Zia International Airport on the eve of his departure for home yesterday at the end of his 3-day visit to Bangladesh.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said he is carrying back with him a message of good will for the people of Pakistan.

Replying to a question, the Pakistan foreign minister said he did not feel there was any immediate solution to the outstanding problems like stranded Pakistanis and clearing of assets between the two countries. Mr Yaqub Khan said discussions on the question of repatriation of Pakistanis and division of assets and liabilities will continue.

On South Asian regional cooperation, the Pakistan foreign minister expressed optimism about the success of the forum and said it will go ahead transcending bilateral problems.

'Burying Past' Urged

BK140938 Dhaka BSS in English 0640 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 14, BSS — Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has called for "burying the past" that stands between his country and Bangladesh and work together for the peace and prosperity of the two countries.

In an exclusive interview with the largest circulated Bengali daily and its English language subsidiary, the Pakistani foreign minister said, "let us close the chapter that is closed and open with sincerety a fresh chapter of good relations and cooperation in various fields."

He indicated his country's eagerness to further improve relations with Bangladesh which fell out from Pakistan following the war of 1971 and became independent.

The Pakistani foreign minister was in Dhaka on a three-day official and good will visit, the first since independence of Bangladesh.

India's Rao Set To Visit From 19 August

BK041139 Dhaka BSS in English 1120 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 4 (BSS) — The Indian external affairs minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, will pay a three-day official visit from August 19 to participate in the forthcoming meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission, Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsud Doha said here yesterday.

The Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission was set up last year with a view to promoting economic cooperation between the two countries.

Mr. Rao visited Bangladesh in the middle of last year.

Sri Lanka Envoy Comments on Talks, Departs

BK130327 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Mr H.W. Jayewardene, special emissary of the Sri Lankan president, has said that his discussions with Indian leaders are productive, fruitful, and constructive. Talking to newsmen in New Delhi yesterday before leaving for Bombay en route to Colombo, he described India's offer of its good offices in resolving the Tamil minority question in Sri Lanka as gracious. Mr Jayewardene said India's role in bringing about a settlement has been clearly spelt out by the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, in her statement in parliament.

Mr Jayewardene was seen off at the airport by the principal secretary to the prime minister, Dr P.C. Alexander, and the secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Mr K.S. Bajpai.

In Colombo, the state secretary, Mr Douglas Liyanage, said that at least 371 people were killed in the recent violence. He said details from different areas are still being collected.

Meanwhile, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam president, Mr Karunanidhi, yesterday received letters from six more party members of the legislative assembly resigning their membership of the Tamil Nadu assembly. Reporting this, PTI says that with this the total number of resignations has gone up to 25. Mr Karunanidhi, however, said that he will not be sending these resignation letters to the speaker.

Gandhi Informs Parliament on Sri Lanka Talks

BK121650 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] India has been informed that the Sri Lanka Government is willing to consider any proposals which will give the Tamil minority their due share in the affairs of their country within the framework of a united Sri Lanka.

Disclosing this in both houses of parliament today, the prime minister said she had informed the special emissary of the Sri Lanka president that the discussions between government and the Tamil community on this broader basis would be useful and that the solution has to be sought at the conference table. Mrs Gandhi offered India's good offices in whatever manner they may be needed. The Sri Lanka president has welcomed the offer. Mrs Gandhi hoped that all concerned will be able to meet at the conference table in an atmosphere of good will and mutual trust to settle their problems.

The prime minister was making a statement on her talks with the special emissary, Mr H. W. Jayewardene. She said the special emissary has informed her that the Sri Lanka president has intended to place certain proposals before a roundtable conference, but Mrs Gandhi expressed the view that these proposals will not meet the aspirations of the Tamil community. The proposals include full implementation of the laws relating to the district development councils and the use of Tamil as provided for in the Constitution as a national language. An initiation of a dialogue on amnesty under conditions of violence will be remote. Two other proposals were the discontinuance of active role of Armed Forces in Jaffna and the cessation of the terrorist violence and the repeal of the prevention of terrorism act. In addition, Mrs Gandhi was informed that if the idea about a separate state was abandoned, the Sri Lanka president was willing to discuss the release of those detained in prisons and not already convicted or awaiting trial. The president was also willing to implement any other assurance contained in the 1977 manifesto of the United National Party.

The prime minister said she has conveyed to the special emissary that the process to find a permanent solution to satisfy the legitimate aspirations of the Tamil minority and ensure their security will have to be urgently initiated.

Mrs Gandhi disclosed that the Sri Lanka president has conveyed an invitation to the Indian parliament to send an all-party delegation to visit Sri Lanka. She said it is for the speaker and the house to take a decision on the invitation.

Mrs Gandhi also announced the decision to constitute a Sri Lanka relief fund to provide succor to those who have suffered in the disturbances in that country. It will have initial contribution of 10 million Indian rupees to be given from the prime minister's national relief fund. The prime minister will be the chairman of the Sri Lanka relief fund committee. She said the tragic sufferings of Indian nationals and people of Indian origin in Sri Lanka had aroused spontaneous sympathy from all sections of our people. This was movingly expressed during the debate in our parliament. Government of India is doing whatever it can to render relief, but this is a big task and the public cooperation is important. She appealed to the people, including Indians living abroad, to contribute generously to the fund.

The prime minister said she had conveyed to the special emissary the deep concern of our parliament and the people at the recent happenings in Sri Lanka and our distress at the human sufferings. She said we have always condemned such violence, killings and discrimination, especially when the victims are defenseless. She reassured him that India stands for the independence, unity,and integrity of Sri Lanka. We do not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, but because of the historical, cultural, and such close ties between the peoples of the two countries, particularly between the Tamil community of Sri Lanka and us, India cannot remain unaffected by such events.

Mrs Gandhi said that according to the special emissary, the situation in Sri Lanka is fast returning to normal and the number of people in the refugee camps have come down from 80,000 to 30,000. The prime minister pointed out that the need of the hour is to reduce tensions and establish confidence. The situation arising out of the events in Sri Lanka is serious and highly complex. It needs careful handling. Government is dealing with it appropriately and will continue to remain in close touch with the Government of Sri Lanka and others concerned. Mrs Gandhi appealed to the members and all sections of the people not to take any step which can aggravate the problems and hardships of the Tamils in Sri Lanka and make it more difficult for us to help in relief and rehabilitation and in finding a lasting solution.

The prime minister's announcement was greeted with cheers from large sections of the two houses. In the Lok Sabha, the Dravida Munetra Kazhagam [DMK] and some other opposition members wanted to seek clarifications to the prime minister's statement, but the speaker said these could not be allowed under the rules. He said he had received motions for a discussion on the statement and the question will be put up to the business advisory committee on Tuesday. The DMK members were not satisfied and walked out. In the Rajya Sabha, DMK members walked out because they said that the statement does not refer to the killings in Sri Lanka. Some members wanted clarifications. The deputy chairman pointed out that the house will have a full-fledged discussion on Tuesday. Members will have an opportunity to seek clarifications at that time, he said.

The special envoy, Mr H.W.Jayewardene, left New Delhi a short while ago.

Leader of Sri Lanka's TULF Meets With Gandhi

BK140818 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] The leader of the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] of Sri Lanka, Mr A. Amirthalingam, has arrived in New Delhi for talks with Mrs Gandhi. Earlier in Madras, he had talks with [Tamil Nadu Chief Minister] Mr M.G. Ramachandran over dinner last night. On arrival in New Delhi, Mr Amirthalingam told newsmen that his party has lost confidence in negotiations because the Sri Lankan Government failed to fulfill their earlier promises. He, however, said with the good offices of the Indian Government and its mediation, the picture has changed. He said he would have to study the proposals for a broad-based political dialogue mooted by Mrs Gandhi and accepted by the Sri Lanka president before taking a final stand.

Mr Amirthalingam said President Jayewardene's offer to repeal the Prevention of Terrorism Act if the front agrees to give up their armed struggle cannot be a solution. He said the act came only in 1979 to meet a certain situation while the freedom struggle of the TULF started earlier. Mr Amirthalingam thanked Mrs Gandhi for her understanding of and sympathy toward the problems of Tamils in Sri Lanka.

AFP: Sri Lankan Ship Fires on Indian Fishing Vessel

BK150920 Hong Kong AFP in English 0901 GMT 15 Aug 83

[By Joel Henri]

[Text] New Delhi, Aug. 15 (AFP) — An incident in which a Sri Lankan Coast Guard vessel opened fire on an Indian fishing boat yesterday could further exacerbate the already difficult relations between New Delhi and Colombo.

The incident occurred in Sri Lankan territorial waters while 5,000 people in a "sacrificial march" from India's Tamil Nadu state were about to cross the Palk Straits to northern Sri Lanka to demonstrate their solidarity with Sri Lankan Tamils in the Jaffna region. Front page newspaper reports here said a Sri Lankan patrol boat opened fire on the fishing vessel and the coast guards beat up the six fishermen.

In Madras, a local correspondent of AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE confirmed by phone today that the sacrificial march was continuing although prohibited by the federal government.

A leader of a local opposition party in the march, P. Neduraman, said that riots could break out if the federal government tried to stop the march. He said 2,000 other people would join him in the next 24 hours at Rameswaram, the port for boats going to Jaffna.

The marchers said they would cross the 40 km (24 miles) straits on makeshift rafts if security forces would not allow them access to boats at Palk Bay.

Tamil Nadu state was decided to boycott celebrations for India's 36th anniversary of independence to protest what it calls the central government's passivity toward the genocide of Tamils in Sri Lanka. The recent ethnic riots there left about 350 dead and 100,000 homeless.

Tamils make up 20 per cent of Sri Lanka's population of about 15 million. Most of them originated from Tamil Nadu in India, which has 45 million people.

However, observers in New Delhi noted that after the hard-line statements from Madras, the secretary general of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), Apparpilai Amirthalingam, softened his position and is no longer demanding a separate Tamil state as a precondition for talks with Colombo authorities. They also noted that Mr. Amirthalingam, who is considered a moderate, may quickly be outrun by extremist elements who now see armed struggle as the only solution to the Tamil problem.

Mr. Amirthalingam is currently having talks with Indian leaders in Delhi.

Soviet Vice President Arrives on 12-Day Visit 13 Aug

BK130907 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] The vice president of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Mr Usmankhodzhayev, arrived in New Delhi this morning on a 12-day visit. He has come as the head of a Soviet delegation to participate in the Independence Day celebrations and the 12th anniversary of the Indo-Soviet friendship treaty. After his arrival, the Soviet leader called on the vice president, Mr Hidayatullah, and was with him for half an hour.

Speaking at the airport on his arrival, Mr Usmankhodzhayev said that the Indo-Soviet treaty has been an instrument of peace in Asia and the whole world. He pointed out that the importance of the threaty is increasing in the present day situation when there are tensions in various regions.

The visiting dignitary will call on President Giani Zail Singh and the Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi.

Usmankhodzhayev on Peace Zone

BK131604 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Excerpt] The Soviet vice president, Mr Usmankhodzhayev, today assured his country's full support to India's efforts to make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. He was speaking at a function held in New Delhi this evening in connection with the Independence Day celebrations and the 12th anniversary of the Indo-Soviet friendship treaty. Apart from a joint effort of all coastal countries, concrete steps by individual countries are also required to make the Indian Ocean an area free from any threat of war. He said the people of the Soviet Union highly appreciate India's efforts to consolidate the Nonaligned Movement and to promote global peace.

Presiding over the function the minister for science and technology, Mr Shivraj Patil, said the relations between the two countries are based on mutual respect, trust, and equality. Mr Patil pointed out that India will continue its endeavor for building up world opinion to check the arms race, particularly in the nuclear field.

Gandhi Says 'Powerful Forces' Exploiting Situation

BK131634 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] The prime minister has warned that powerful forces, which want India to be weak, are once again exerting their influence and are trying to exploit a difficult situation. In a message to the independence day issue of *India Weekly*, published from London, she has said unity is most precious and we must guard it conscientiously and constantly.

Mrs Gandhi pointed out that from ancient times India had been united culturally and emotionally. Even during periods of worst political fragmentation the essence of Indian-nesshad prevailed. The surge for unity helped in the upsurge against colonial domination. India's democratic society, Mrs Gandhi said, encourages distinctive culture and development of all parts of the country and of every community. Our culture is rich because of its diversity. Our philiosophy is more enduring because of its tolerance and capacity for adoption and absorption. This spirit, Mrs Gandhi said, had to be kept alive as the best guarantee of our freedom and unity.

Prime Minister Greets Ziaul Haq on Independence Day

BK140859 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, has felicitated President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan on the occasion of the independence day of his country today. In a message to General Zia, Mrs Gandhi expressed the hope that relations between India and Pakistan will continue to develop for the mutual benefit of the peoples of the two nations.

Barbed Wire Fence on Bangladesh Border Approved

BK130347 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] The government has decided to construct barbed wire fencing all along the Indo-Bangladesh border to check infiltration more effectively. An official spokesman said in New Delhi yesterday that the work will be carried out in phases starting with more vulnerable areas of Assam and West Bengal. The Assam border will be covered in 2 years and the entire border in 5 years.

The spokesman also said that a 2 and 1/2 meter wide blacktopped jeepable track will be constructed alongside the wire fencing except in place where there are roads within 3 km of the border.

A commissioner will be appointed with headquarters at Gauhati to oversee the erection of fence and construction of the roads.

New Chief Minister Elected in Patna 14 August

BK140850 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Mr Chandra Shekhar Singh is to be the new chief minister of Bihar. He was unanimously elected leader of the state Congress-I legislature party in Patna today. Mr Chandra Shekhar Singh's name was proposed by the outgoing chief minister, Dr Jagannath. Mr Singh's election was announced by the All-India Congress Committee-I observer Mr Pranab Mukherjee. Mr Chandra Shekhar Singh, who is the union minister of state for energy, represents Banka constituency in the Lok Sabha.

Ziaul Haq Speech to Federal Advisory Council

BK121600 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1110 GMT 12 Aug 83

[12 August address by President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq to Federal Advisory Council in Islamabad--live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Mr President, members of the Majlis, blessings be upon you. Ever since the inception of the Majlis-e-Shoora, I have veen addressing its opening session. But I could not continue this tradition due to a lack of (?time) for which we'll try to compensate today. For what I am going to say today from the platform of the Majlis-e-Shoora is extremely significant. As you remember, I said on the auspicious occasion of 14 August last year in my speech that we will endeavor to present, God willing, a positive Islamic infrastructure by next Independence Day and an Islamic procedure before the nation.

During this past year, the framework that has emerged is more than a skeleton; it is a whole form. In fact, some are saying that a hen and eggs are also being presented. [laughter] Anyway, I am present before you today to fulfill this pledge. There has been wide publicity concerning this announcement during the past year. It was widely discussed among politicians as well as (?the people) and in newspapers and other organizations, both inside and outside the country. One of the effects of this prolonged publicity was that the people's expectations concerning my announcement rose considerably. The issue was, to some extent, responsible for this, and certain quarters knowingly enhanced the expectations. So much was said in newspapers on this issue that it is not humanly possible to fulfill everything in this regard. There are some things which cannot be fulfilled probably by even angels, I think, not to mention human beings. We reviewed all these views, studied them, and tried to our best to present before the nation a fair, appropriate, and practical program and plan of action. But work on preparation of the program has been going on for a long time. As you know, we at the outset referred to the Islamic Ideology Council, and it took up some responsibilities in this regard. Then a Cabinet subcommittee was formed and, later, the special committee of the Advisory Council started positive work on the issue. Discussions were held, as you know, at this session and at this house on this issue. And again, during the last month, a special commission was also formed under the leadership of Maulana Zafar Ahmad Ansari.

Besides this, I have received views and recommendations on the issue from some other sources, which include ulema, Islamic thinkers residing both in and outside Pakistan, thePakistani people, and intellectuals. A number of citizens and people also wrote personal letters to me and provided me with their views on the Islamic system of government. Reviews, features, and editorials published in newspapers must be added to this. While referring to these views and ideologies, a particular section is usually ignored: the people. Probably, the people in higher positions do not give them importance because they are either illiterate or semi-educated. However, the fact is that they are very patriotic [applause] and they have a very mature political conciousness concerning the affairs of the country.

I have also read their views on the political system in newspapers and I am happy to know that in press interviews, while they have stressed the need for a government that can solve their everyday problems, they have repeatedly said that they like the Islamic system and only the Islamic system of government. [applause]

They also recommend that only an Islamic system of government should be enforced in the country. I understand that this is also one of the methods of consultations that we have adopted. During this consultation, I received a number of opinions, proposals, and recommendations, and it is not possible to discuss them here. However, if it is not possible to present all the views before the people, we at least want the recommendations prepared by the main organizations placed before the people. Therefore, we have decided to publish verbatim the report of the Advisory Council's special committee, views of Advisory Council members on the recommendations, the Islamic Ideology Council's report, and the report of the Maulana Ansari commission. I hope the publication of these reports will make this clear to the people.

Many related as well as unrelated issues came up during the debate, and these are the issues that deserve attention: whether the system of government should be presidential or parliamentary, whether the form of government should be federal or nonfederal, whether the 1973 Constitution should be restored in total or apprpriate amendments made, or whether it should be terminated and a new constitution framed. Is there a need for a referendum to receive the people's mandate on the government's policies? What should be the powers of the president and the prime minister and should a balance be achieved between them? What should be the constitutional role of the Armed Forces? Should the present provinces of the country be maintained as usual or should new provinces be formed on the basis of civil administrative divisions? What is the role of political parties in the Islamic system of government? Are future elections to be held on a party or nonparty basis? What should be the procedure of election? Should it be proportional representation, majority voting, separate elections, or mixed? What should be the basic qualifications of the candidates according to Islamic rules? Is there any need for a change in adult franchise? Should the local bodies be used as an electoral college? What is the role of women in an Islamic system of government? What will be the rights of the minorities under this system and what will be the guarantees for their protection?

I have given considerable thought to these questions. I have benefited from Koranic verses and the prophet's teachings on the Islamic system of government.

In Pakistan, the history of drawing up constitutions is very long and full of ups and downs. After the 1947 provisional constitution order, more or less half a dozen constitutions were framed out of which four — those of 1956, 1962, 1972, and 1973 —were enforced. Of these, the constitutions of 1956 and 1973 were of a parliamentary nature and those of 1962 and 1972 were of the presidential form. During this time, martial law was imposed on the country three times. First in 1958, and then 1969 martial law terminated the existing constitutions, while the present martial law, instead of terminating the constitution, only kept it in abeyance.

You must surely have considered many times why martial law has been imposed on our dear country so many times and why the constitutions were either terminated or kept in abeyance. I do not want to get involved in this debate at this time, but I would like to mention the 1977 events as a result of which martial law was imposed and the 1973 Constitution was placed in abeyance. Everybody says, and rightly so to some extent, that this constitution was framed by the elected representatives of the people and all political parties and groups gave their approval. The government implementing this constitution was also called the democratic government. If all this is so, then why in 1977, when the country was faced with a crisis, was this constitution unable to provide a solution to the crisis and why did the Armed Forces have to intervene to save the country from disaster, regardless of the political and economic conditions at that time? What form of rigging took place in the elections and what sort of policies was the government pursuing? The main point here is that under the 1973 Constitution there was a great imbalance in the powers between the president and the prime minister which led to a worsening of the 1973 crisis. The president and (?ministers) had become so helpless that because of the dictatorial powers, the prime minister had to be stopped from continuing his nondemocratic and authoritarian ways. As a result of 5 years of authoritarianism, the country was brought to the brink of civil war, its economy was ruined, normal life was disrupted, and democracy was destroyed in the name of democracy. The honor and dignity of mothers, sisters, and daughters were trampled upon by the protectors of honor and dignity and the people of the country became dispirited about their future. When the Armed Forces took over the administration of the country amid this threatening situation, then the entire country — and you are evidence to this — heaved a sigh of relief. People offered thanks, giving prayers and celebrating as if they had regained independence.

Now, I understand that before presenting the political framework it was necessary to keep you abreast of all these conditions and ideas. After exchanging views and discussion on this subject, I have reached the conclusion that we have three ways before us. First is that the 1973 Constitution should be restored without any change, second is that this constitution should be terminated and a new constitution framed and the people's mandate secured for it, and third is to make necessary amendments to the 1973 Constitution and then enforce it. There is danger that in adopting the first way the country could again be brought to the brink of crisis as in 1977, meaning on one side an all-powerful prime minister and on the other a powerless and ineffective president, leaving the country to the mercy of one person. That would mean that we have not learned any lesson from the past. That is why pursuing this path could not be considered to be in the national interest. The second main reason against it is that in the 1973 Constitution Islam is present only in the preface but the text [words indistinct] which in my view is prejudicial to the people's aspirations.

The second path, in my view, is also not in the national interest, because adopting this path would mean leading the country again toward an uncertain situation and create a situation where we would be back to where we started in the constitutional life of Pakistan. If this had been my intention, then in these 6 years I would not have kept the 1973 Constitution in abeyance, but would have terminated it long ago.

That is why after deep thought and consultation we have decided to adopt the third path [applause] because in our point of view we consider this to be in the national interest. In this constitution, some of the facts are settled and to raise them anew is not appropriate. Other than this, all quarters of the country are unanimous about restoring it with some amendments. Here it would not be inappropriate to say that this is the opinion of this house which I and my colleague respect. However, in this constitution it is necessary to introduce two kinds of amendments which have been demanded by all people and scholars belonging to all schools of thought.

One aspect of the amendment is related to appropriate changes in the powers of the president and the prime minister and the second concerns making it conform with Islamic principles. I cannot mention the details of the constitution today, but, God willing, exercising the right of consultations, your advice will definitely be taken on this. The people will be consulted.

However, I do consider it necessary to identify a few major things. The first thing is that objectives and motives now contained in the preface should be the real text of the constitution. The second is that although the guilding principles decided earlier are present in some brief form somewhere in the provision of the 1973 Constitution, in our view these guiding principles should be a part of the constitution according to the original text. These are the minimum amendments which it will be necessary to introduce into the 1973 Constitution so that apart from reflecting the Islamic aspirations of the people, it can save the country from future crisis.

After carefully considering all of these points, our basic decisions are: the restoration of the 1973 Constitution with the creation of a balance between the powers of the president and the powers of the prime minister, making it conform with Islamic principles. While introducing this amendment along with other proposals, the Federal Advisory Council's views and the recommendations of the Ansari commission will be kept in mind.

Extensive debate has taken place on the role of the Armed Forces. I want to conclude this debate today. There will be no new constitutional role for the Armed Forces. [applause] On this point, the accepted position will be maintained. The elections will be held on the basis of adult franchise. [applause] The president will appoint the prime minister. [applause] However, the person to be appointed to this post must, in the president's view, enjoy the support of the majority of the members of the national assembly. The prime minister will have to receive a vote of confidence from the assembly within 2 months. When the president feels that it is necessary to obtain a fresh mandate from the people, he will dissolve the national assembly. In such a situation, new elections will be held within 75 days. [applause] Now you will ask why have you decided on 75 days, and I will be able to say that I had consulted an oracle. It was under our consideration to keep it for 60 days, then again people will ask why 60 days. Somebody said 90 days. I said do not mention 90 days. [laughter] However, 75 days have been decided upon for this. However,

there will be a provision that any approved bill could be returned to the assembly and the house for reconsideration.

The president will be the supreme commander of the Armed Forces and he will appoint the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee and the three chiefs of staff of the Armed Forces and decide about their terms and conditions of service.

The president will also appoint the chief election commissioner and other members of the election commission on the advise of the chief justice of Pakistan. The president will also appoint the provincial governors. Other than this, a national security council will be set up without whose advice the government cannot declare a state of emergency. [applause] The number of members of this national security council, who its members will be, and what will be its rights, will be announced by me later.

To improve the economic situation of the country, the private sector will be encouraged and given protection. It is our endeavor, and one of our main plans, among other priorities, to correctly implement the sixth 5-year plan.

Before I mention something about elections, I would like to sincerely thank all these institutions, members, and the Cabinet colleagues who had helped in reaching these decisions. Without their help, guidance, and cooperation this task would have been very difficult for me. I especially thank the Federal Advisory Council, the Council of Islamic Ideology, the Maulana Ansari commission, and all other people who put forward their recommendations but later preferred to be anonymous. I also thank those newspapers, journals, and the media which, taking a deep interest in this subject, brought to light many points of view.

As far as elections are concerned, as you are aware, we have never denied their necessity or usefulness. I have always said that in the current situation we have no alternative to elections. However, the elections must be held some day or other. If conditions had permitted it, I would have held elections a long time ago. I had resolved to hold elections on two occasions, but both times they had to be postponed. I also told the nation about the reasons — that somebody else and not me was responsible. I do not want to raise this subject again. Contradictory opinions have been expressed about elections. Some people urge forgetting the elections and paying attention to other important tasks such as reviving the economy and enforcing the Islamic system. Another group says the holding of elections is a must, but hold them at an appropriate time. If you hold them now, the country's security will be threatened. Yet a third group says hold the elections immediately and hand over power to us and you can leave the scene. If you ask my persoanl view, I would say that this third group is correct to some extent, but [words indistinct] is my own personal affair. [laughter]

But I am telling you the truth, that if it was within my power this task could have been accomplished much earlier. But we will not allow anybody to play with the fate of the country, simply because of elections. [applause] I am aware that a long delay in the implementation of the democratic process is not in the interest of the country, but we have to see whether the danger lies in holding the elections immediately or postponing them for some time. In my view, holding elections at the wrong time is much more harmful than delaying the elections, because elections without an objective is a meaningless slogan. The real thing is the result of the elections, which in all conditions should be positive.

Therefore, we decided to hold elections in two stages. But in each stage certain rules and regulations should be followed. These factors should be taken into account for the elections. First, the standard of selection of candidates will be their individual character, not their wealth and family influence. Identity cards will be needed while voting. Election campaigns should be short, but the mode of coordination between the candidates and electorates should be correct and in accordance with the Islamic viewpoint. In this context, you should know that Islam does not permit [words indistinct] canvassing. [applause] Local bodies will not be used as electoral colleges. Rights of women will be protected fully and they will enjoy the rights enjoyed by men. [applause] Their quota in assemblies will be maintained. Minorities, in Islam, are not oppressed or tyrannized. Would you permit me to say a sentence in English? In Islam, minorities are not minorities or oppressed classes; they are the most privileged classes. [preceding sentence in English] They are very privileged people. In fact, their rights in an Islamic society are more than those of the Muslim population. In an Islamic system of government, their rights will be fully protected. They will have a separate election procedure and will be able to freely elect their representatives according to their choice as well as their countrymen. Laborers, peasants, technocrats, other professionals,and ulema will be given representation. [Words indistinct] I hope that one day, very soon, Pakistan's society will be transformed in accordance with Islam. [applause] I also believe that elections will be held and will be held soon and the representatives of people with Islamic way of thought will enhance the prestige of this country, nation, and Islam by taking their seats in this house. [applause]

Keeping these facts in mind, elections, as I mentioned to you, will be held in two stages. In the first stage, which is to be started now, local bodies elections will be held. The dates for these have been and are being announced by the provincial governments. These elections, God willing, will be completed within this year. You might recall that political parties opposed the holding of local bodies elections 4 years ago, after a lapse of 15 years. We held these elections despite this opposition and established these bodies. Experience over the past 4 years has proved that the decisions were timely and correct. I am happy that second local bodies elections are being held on schedule. Also, the enthusiasm displayed by people in the elections testifies to the popularity and importance of these institutions. You might also know that some political parties said they are going to boycott them. So their members and associates said that all right, if you are boycotting, then stay home; we will contest the elections. [applause]

Like before, these elections will be held on a nonparty basis, as I told you. I hope the people who are elected during these elections will pay full attention to the development of their respective areas and to the welfare of the people. Taking advantage of this opportunity, I would like to commend the present members of the local bodies. They have fulfilled their responsibilities in their respective constituencies in a very good manner and fully represented their areas. [applause] This will be the first stage.

In the second stage of elections, elections will be held for the provincial assemblies, national assembly, and the senate. This stage, God willing, will be completed by 23 March 1985. [applause] You might have noted that from today, 12 August, to 23 March 1985. . . [break in transmission]. The vested interests who try to disrupt the law and order or the election program will be dealt with severely. I have categorically stated this so that nobody should have any doubt in this regard. Remember, Islam does not like those who abet violence, chaos, and riots.

I will continue to receive the cooperation of those who have extended their cooperation to me and strengthened my hands until today. In fact, I need their cooperation during this time much more than before.

I hope and pray to God that He may direct our ship successfully to the shore where followers of Islam sit and where Islam's name has been exalted. We have to reach that shore for an Islamic state. I think, under this program, we have to move forward under a clear and determined program until the democratic process is restored and martial law is lifted.

Reaction to President's Speech Described

BK131012 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] People belonging to all sections of society, including workers of the Pakistan Movement, scholars, labor leaders, and women, have welcomed the president's announcement on the country's new political structure and described it as excellent, historic, highly impressive and effective, and a landmark in the political history of Pakistan.

Appreciating the president's views about ensuring constitutional stability in the country, they noted that the 1973 Constitution must be amended so the failures and discrepancies of the past will not be repeated in the future. The balance between the powers of the president and those of the prime minister will eliminate the possibility of a prime minister acquiring and using dictatorial powers. With the constitution of the national security council, no one will be able to impose a state of emergency as this will require the prior approval of the council. This step, the said, is completely in line with the principles of democracy.

A prominent worker of the Pakistan Movement and former federal information minister, Khan Abdul Wali Khan, has said President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's announcement on the political structure and elections will be welcomed by the people. The work done by the president, he added, should have been done by the politicians, but they have been unsuccessful in this regard.

Welcoming the president's announcement, a prominent religious scholar and chairman of the Central Moon Sighting Committee, Allamah (Mahmood Ahmad Rizvi), said it is the religious and national duty of scholars and theologians to unite and devote their capabilities toward the supremacy of Islam and the Islamic society.

A retired judge of the Lahore high court has said the president's announcement has set the nation on the path toward democracy. Lahore Municipal Corporation Mayor (Mian Shujaur Rahman); (Khurshid Ahmad) of the All-Pakistan Federation of Trade Unions; President of the Pakistan Progressive Labor Organization (Daryar Yusuf Qureshi); and the president of the Karachi Port Trust Labor Union, (Khalilur Rahman), have also welcomed the president's announcement.

The members of the Federal Advisory Council, Hafiz (Mohammad Taqi), Dr Nazir Ahmad, (Chowdhury Manzoor Hussain), (Chowdhury Mushtaq Dogal), (Mufti Mohammad Hussain Qazi), (Maulana Qazi Abdul Latif), (Mahmood Ahmed Mirza), Begum Sabiha Shakil, Begum Bilqis Shahbaz, Begum (Masooda Sabir), Dr (Naseem Maqbool), and others have also welcomed the announcement.

MRD Response

BK131250 Hong Kong AFP in English 1222 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Islamabad, Aug. 13 (AFP) — Suspicious of Pakistani President Ziaul Haq's announcement of an end to martial law in 1985, the main opposition group here demanded an "immediate" return to democracy and held to its call for civil disobedience tomorrow, August 14, on Pakistan's independence day.

The eight secular groups in the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) said General Zia's promise was a "new manoeuvre to continue martial law," and that he would fail to deliver the elections, as he had twice done before in his six-year reign.

In 1977 and 1980, Gen. Zia refused to end martial law because he said the country could not stand divisiveness. He said certain political factions feared that democracy would enable the Pakistani People's Party (PPP) of former Prime Minister Ali Bhutto to return to power. But Gen. Zia now seems more confident. His "project for an Islamic political system," announced yesterday, is seen as a way of reviving the 1973 parliamentary constitution, suitably amended to allow more presidential authority, and embellished with Islamic principles. His intention, it is said here, is to reinforce an image of Western-style democracy.

Over 20,000 Participate in 14 August Demonstration

BK141315 Hong Kong AFP in English 1257 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Karachi, Aug. 14 (AFP) — More than 20,000 people took part in an illegal demonstration here demanding an "immediate" return to democracy today, the 37th anniversary of Pakistan's independence. It marked the launch of a campaign of civil disobedience organised by the main opposition to the government of General Mohammed Ziaul Haq, known as the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD).

The protest, held in the gardens surrounding the mausoleum of the founder of Pakistan, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, coincided with the general's announcement of an Islamic "crusade" to eradicate corruption and offer quick justice. The general said Islamic courts were being set up to start work immediately on "an experimental basis" in Rawalpindi and Islamabad, which will pronounce Islamic punishments, including flogging.

Observers were surprised at the mass turn-out. Some 5,000 counter-demonstrators, government supporters, some armed with knives and clubs, attempted to break up the assembly, but were outnumbered and forced to flee. A few people were slightly injured in the fracas.

Leaders of the eight secular groups which make up the MDR denounced the general's "false promises" to organise elections in 1985 and called for an immediate lifting of martial law, imposed six years ago. The crowd included politicians who went underground for two days to avoid being caught in the wave of police arrests carried out in anticipation of today's demonstration.

Afterwards the leader of the Leftist Workers' Party, Fatehyab Ali Khan, told journalists another demonstration had been scheduled tomorrow in the centre of Karachi. "We have won the first round", he said, before announcing that the MRD was asking people to stop paying their taxes immediately as a protest against martial law.

MRD leader Abid Zubairi was slightly injured as he left the demonstration when he was attacked by a small group of government supporters. The president of the Karachi Bar Association Abdul Hafeez Lakho was arrested when he got home.

Other demonstrations were also due to take place in the country's major towns and cities today.

The new Islamic courts announced today will be set up at country and district levels alongside existing courts and will seek to dispense justice quickly, officials said. The project seems likely to win support from the Islamic parties, as they have previously pressed for greater Islamisation of Pakistani society, observers said.

Press Note Cites Arrests

BK141732 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] According to a press note issued by the Karachi administration tonight, some members and supporters of defunct political parties visited the mazar [mausoleum] of the Qaid-i-Azam today for offering Fatiha [prayer]. In spite of the press note issued earlier by the administration on Friday last and in violation of the provision of the Qaid's mazar protection amendment, Ordnance Amendment 1971, they raised slogans and made some political speeches from the steps of the mazar. Some citizens present there objected to such speeches as a result of which hot words were exchanged and a scuffle took place. Later on, after leaving the premises of the mazar, some of the elements indulged in stone pelting which resulted in the damage of a number of streetlights and windowpanes of a bank nearby. However, the police dispersed them. The press note said cases have been registered against those who violated the provisons of the ordinance and relevant martial law regulation and order. Thirteen arrests have been made so far. The press note adds that elsewhere in Karachi the situation remained normal.

Further Report

OW141840 Paris AFP in English 1828 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 14 (AFP) — Despite General Mohammed Ziaul Haq's promise to organise a general election in Pakistan within 18 months, thousands demonstrated in the streets today for a "return to democracy".

More than 200 officials and militants of Pakistan's eight political parties, all of them banned, were arrested.

The Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), formed by the parties to oppose General Zia's government, organised the demonstrations to launch a campaign of civil disobedience, planned to coincide with the 36th anniversary of Pakistan's independence.

In Karachi, Pakistan's largest city, the movement's big names came out of hiding to address more than 20,000 protesters. The politicians had gone underground earlier this week to escape arrest in police raids.

The demonstrators, surrounded by police, gathered in the gardens of the mausoleum of Jinnah, founding father of the Pakistani nation.

Five thousand supporters of General Zia's military regime were forced to turn back when they realised the size of the MRD protest.

In Peshawar, capital of the Northwest Frontier Province, around 100 protesters were arrested after gathering in the bazaar shouting "death to Zia" as thousands of bystanders cheered and clapped.

Before being dragged away, the protesters managed to confuse the police briefly by shouting pro-government slogans.

The secretary-general of the Pakistani People's Party (PPP) and five companions were arrested in Lahore, capital of Punjab. They were trying to hold a public meeting in Lahore's main park, which had been cordoned off by the police.

The PPP was formed by former Prime Minister Ali Bhutto, who was executed after the military seized power six years ago.

Among the dozens of MRD protesters arrested elsewhere was General Tikka Khan, army chief of staff under the Bhutto government.

Demonstrations also took place in Quetta, Rawalpindi, Sukkur, Larkana and other major cities.

"We have won the first round," said Fateyab Ali Khan, head of one of the smaller left-wing parties, after the Karachi protest. Another mass gathering in the city centre is planned for tomorrow afternoon.

The MRD announced today that it was stepping up its campaign by asking all Pakistanis to stop paying their taxes and not to be afraid if they ended up in prison.

The success of the campaign so far recalls the protest launched in March, 1977, against Mr. Bhutto's increasingly tyrannical government.

The MRD has apparently not taken General Zia by surprise. This morning, during a press conference on his proposed return to a civil regime, he warned that he would not tolerate trouble-makers.

He said the people had placed their trust in the government for six years and he saw no need to put that trust to the test by holding an immediate general election.

General Zia also announced the setting up of Islamic courts to work alongside existing courts and dispense justice quickly.

National Democratic Party Leaders Resign From MRD
GF121204 Dubayy Khaleej Times in English 12 Aug 83 p 1

[Text] Islamabad — Ghulam Ahmed Bilor, current convener of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) and general secretary of National Democratic Party (NDP), yesterday resigned from party office and membership in a dramatic setback for the MRD.

Mr Bilor said he resigned on a directive from veteran Red Shirt leader Ghaffar Khan, commonly known as "Sarhadi (Frontier) Gandhi".

Mr. Bilor who resigned along with two other NDP leaders, Abdul Khaliq Khan and Farid Toofan, at a press conference addressed by Ghaffar Khan, said, "Whatever may be our commitment to the MRD, we cannot say no to Bacha Khan".

Mr Bilor acted as national convener of the MRD following the arrest of NDP President Sherbaz Mazari.

DAWN Lists Opposition Leaders Arrested
GF142030 Karachi Dawn in English 12 Aug 83 p 22

[Text] Peshawar, Aug 11 — The NWFP police have arrested several political leaders.

Maulana Fazlur Rahman (defunct JUI) [Jamiatul-Ulema-i-Islam] was arrested early this morning from Darul Uloom Sarhad, Peshawar, and sent to the Peshawar Central Jail. Mukhtar Bacha, Rifatullah, Abdul Rauf and Zirawar were also arrested and taken to Kabuli police station from where they were shifted to the Peshawar central jail.

They have been arrested under MPO. [as published]

PPI adds: The acting president of defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal, Syed Munir Shah, was also arrested from his university town residence last night. He was immediately served with a notice of exterment from Punjab for one month and then sent to Peshawar Central Jail.

A number of workers and office bearers of the defunct PPP were arrested in Peshawar last night.

They are: Saeed Ahmad Khan, (general secretary, city PPP), Zulfiqar Khan, Malik Inam, Avub Shah, Dr Naz Durrani, Shaukat Hussain, Malik Said Ahmad, Malik Fida Mohammad.

Gujranwala correspondent adds: Two leaders of the defunct PPP, Malik Abdul Basit, advocate; and Mohammad Arif Chatta, have been arrested and sent to judicial lockup. The police, meanwhile, raided the houses of MRD leaders including Ch. Abdul Waheed, chairman, defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal, Gujranwala; Shaikh Bashir Ahmad, of the defunct Muslim League (Khwaja Khairuddin group), Ch. Ghulam Rasool Sindhu, general secretary, defunct Muslim League, Gujranwala; Mian Ayub Rehmani, general secretary, defunct PDP [Pakistan Democratic Party], Gujranwala; and Abdul Malak Shah, of the defunct JUI, Gujranwala. However, they could not be arrested.

It is reliably learnt that a list of 200 political leaders and workers has been provided to DIG [Deputy Inspector General], Gujranwala range, Major Mushtaq Ahmad. Those persons who met American Embassy's personnel the other day are also likely to be arrested.

SRI LANKA

Presidential Envoy Returns From Talks in India

BK131722 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Special envoy of the president, Mr H. W. Jayewardene, queen's counsel, who was in New Delhi for discussions on the current situation in Sri Lanka with the Indian prime minister, Srimati Indira Gandhi, returned to the island today.

In a special interview with the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation, Mr H. W. Jayewardene said that the Indian prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, has offered her good offices, if necessary, for bringing about peaceful conclusion to the problems in Sri Lanka. He said that President Jayewardene has welcomed this proposal. The president, he said, has also noted that Mrs Gandhi has said it very clearly that India stood for unity, integrity, and independence for Sri Lanka and that India did not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. She had also agreed that a lasting and final solution to the problems with regard to the Tamil minority was necessary.

Mr Jayewardene explained the statement that was issued by the Indian prime minister subsequent to their talks. He said that he had stated the proposals that the president had intended placing before the roundtable conference, which was averted. The foremost areas were implementation of laws relating to district councils, the use of Tamil as provided for in the Constitution, the initiation of a dialogue for granting amnesty to persons who had participated in acts of violence provided they would give up such violence, repeal of the prevention of terrorism act, and the removal of the Armed Forces in Jaffna provided terrorist violence was given up. The president was also prepared to implement other proposals contained in the United National Party manifesto of 1977. All these proposals were subject to condition that the plea for secession was given up and terrorist violence abandoned.

He said that he was grateful to the Indian prime minister for the generous gesture on her part initiating the contribution by the Indian Government toward the Sri Lanka fund. He also disclosed that President Jayewardene has invited an all-party Indian delegation to Sri Lanka and that the Indian parliament was to discuss this proposal in due course.

The roundtable conference, he said, would be resumed and would be held within the framework of the United Lanka, where the question of secession would no longer be (? a matter) to be considered.

AFP Account

BK131628 Hong Kong AFP in English 1611 GMT 13 Aug 83

[AFP prefaces item with note: "This dispatch was subject to censorship."]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 13 (AFP) — The Sri Lankan president's special envoy and brother, Hector Wilfred Jayewardene, has just returned from his four-day visit to India where he had talks with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Speaking on Sri Lankan television, Mr Jayewardene said that during the two rounds of talks he had with Mrs Gandhi, she reaffirmed that India stood for the unity, integrity and sovereignty of Sri Lanka and that it "does not interfere in the internal affairs of another country." Mr Jayewardene said that he agreed with Mrs Gandhi that "there must be a lasting and final solution to the problems which have arisen in Sri Lanka with regard to the Tamil minority."

The Sri Lankan envoy told the Indian prime minister that President Junius Jayewardene intended to implement the proposals he first had in mind at the time of the "abortive round table conference," held last July with only the United National Party and the Ceylon Workers Congress (CWC), a moderate trade union representing the interests of the Tamil plantation workers. The CWC broke away from the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) precisely on the question of separatism, which the CWC rejects.

The proposals included a decentralisation programme geared to giving greater autonomy to Sri Lanka's 25 districts. The president was also considering granting an amnesty to "terrorists" providing they "give up acts of violence." Mr Jayewardene also said that the Sri Lankan Government was prepared to release "those people responsible who had been convicted or were awaiting trial."

Another of the proposals the Sri Lankan president was prepared to implement if, and only if, the "terrorists" were prepared to give up their armed struggle, was to consider the "removal of the armed forces in Jaffna." Finally, the Sri Lankan Government is prepared to "repeal the prevention of terrorism act," Mr Jayewardene said.

Mrs Gandhi told the Sri Lankan envoy that those measures may not "go far enough to meet the aspirations of the Tamil people." Mr Jayewardene said that the Sri Lankan president would be prepared "to have further discussions" provided they take place "within the framework of a united Lanka." Finally he expressed his "gratitude to Mrs Gandhi, the Indian Government and the Indian people" for their response in helping "their friendly neighbour Lanka" with the setting up of the Sri Lanka relief fund.

AFP: TULF Expected To Hold Meeting 'in 10 Days'

BK130850 Hong Kong AFP in English 0827 GMT 13 Aug 83

[AFP prefaces item with note: "This dispatch was subject to censorship."]

[Excerpts] Colombo, Aug. 13 (AFP) — The Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), the main parliamentary opposition party faced with a constitutional ban, is expected to meet in 10 days time to decide its course of action and prepare for the future, party sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE from Jaffna.

The TULF has still not decided whether the August 22 meeting should be of the seven-member Politburo or the 150-member General Council. There is growing pressure on the TULF leadership to call a meeting of the General Council to map out future strategy in the face of the constitutional ban, observers said. Since the Politburo consists of seven parliamentarians whose seats are threatened unless they take an oath rejecting separatism, some sections of the party believe that discussion should be open to wider sections of the membership.

Government Revises Death Toll From Disturbances
BK121144 Hong Kong AFP in English 1101 GMT 12 Aug 83

[AFP prefaces item with note: "This dispatch was subject to censorship."]

[Excerpt] Colombo, Aug. 12 (AFP) — At least 371 people were killed in last month's violence between the minority Tamils and majority Sinhalese, the government said today, revising its earlier death toll figures as more reports came in.

State Secretary Douglas Liyanage said that 317 people had died in mob violence, 34 looters, arsonists and others were killed by the security forces and 20 people were killed by the army in the north in the immediate aftermath of a Tamil terrorist attack. The total of 371 does not include the 13 soldiers killed in the attack and one who succumbed to his injuries later, he said. The incident sparked off ethnic violence two days later in the south, which left some 100,000 persons homeless and around 20,000 homes and shops damaged. Mr. Liyanage said that the figures had to be revised as reports from different areas were collated.

Meanwhile, the number of displaced people in the 14 refugee camps in Colombo dwindled to 13,500 as more left either for the north and east or to stay with friends and relatives elsewhere. The special authority created to handle rehabititation has authorised landlords, tenants and occupants of houses and business enterprises to undertake repairs without delay, Mr. Liyanage said. The rehabilitation of property and industries authority will de-vest all property as soon as it is satisfied that repairs have been completed.

Liyanage Says 'Leftist Elements' Maintaining Tension
BK121332 Hong Kong AFP in English 1249 GMT 12 Aug 83

[AFP prefaces item with note: "This dispatch has been subject to censorship."]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 12 (AFP) — The government here today accused "leftist elements" with attempting to keep tension in the country at a "panic level," thereby hurting economic recovery and undermining government stability.

State Secretary Douglas Liyanage said this strategy had been illustrated by a series of posters in and around the northern city of Jaffna calling on Tamils to come to the north by certain deadlines. The posters created the impression that the Tamil militants were preparing new attacks which would lead to more violence and property damage, he said.

At least 17,750 people left homeless as a result of violence in and around Colombo have already gone by boat to Jaffna, where the population is mainly Tamil, the Trade and Shipping Ministry said yesterday.

Mr Liyanage added that security authorities considered it "unlikely that terrorists will give advanced warning" of targetsor dates for their attacks, noting that past operations by the militants had been generally hit-and-run incidents.

He also denied rumours that an army jeep had been attacked by militants in th north near Mankulam, about 80 km (50 miles) south of Jaffna, saying the jeep had been in an accident. One soldier was killed and some others injured in the accident, he added.

Security authorities have estimated the strike capability and weaponry of the Tamil militants and are confident that they can deal effectively with any type of frontal attack, the state secretary said.

Authorities believe the posters in Jaffna, which often tell Tamils that separatist militants will fight for their interests, were an attempt by the militants to attract support from the newly arrived refugees before they began blaming the terrorists for their plight.

Mr Liyanage said the militants' aim was to maintain a "panic level" of tension so that a single incident or rumour could be used to unleash further violence. At the same time, the state secretary said that only one of Sri Lanka's 10 major garment manufacturers had been damaged in the recent disturbances, and that country would be able to meet its export quotas. Mr Liyange also reported south Indian police have arrested 21 people at Rameshwaram, the closest point between India and Sri Lanka. They were apparently preparing to cross over to Sri Lanka to protest against the recent violence here against the Tamils.

Mr Liyanage said today that the Indian External Affairs Ministry had assured Sri Lanka that no illegal crossings from Indian territory would be permitted.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

Communique No 1,425

LD121811 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,425 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Fighting and exchange of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued yesterday on the operational fronts of Val-Fajr II, Piranshah. The combatants of Islam decisively continued their relentless battle to prevent the futile moves by the Iraqi forces, so much so that at 0200 and in the evening (?at 2200) yesterday, the defeated and disintegrating forces of Saddam attempted a counteroffensive on three occasions, using their heavy forces backed by artillery fire and air cover. But, each time, the victorious and powerful combatants of Islam crushed enemy attacks within the first few hours, scattered enemy forces, forced them to retreat, captured a number of their personnel, and dealt heavy blows to the Iraqi forces. On 10 August, Iraqi forces, trying to recapture their positions, launched six counterattacks between 0400 and 1400; each time they were forced to retreat and flee, having sustained heavy damages and casualties and leaving behind their equipment.

On the border fronts of Bakhtaran Province, fighting with exchanges of fire continued between our powerful combatants and enemy forces. Our forces succeeded in carrying out reconnaissance missions and preventing enemy troop movements.

On the operational fronts of Val-Fajr III operations, Mehran, the powerful combatants of Islam consolidated and established their positions and while defending their positions, executed intensive defensive fire, thus keeping a check on enemy movements and activities. In the (Fakkah) region, enemy patrol missions tried to infiltrate the defensive lines of our combatants at several points but because of execution of fire by our forces, enemy patrols sustained damages and casualties and were forced to flee the area.

On the southern fronts of the country, exchange of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued sporadically and in Kush, Sharhani, and Hoseyniyeh, the intensity of fire was more than in other fronts. Our forces opened fire on enemy motorized units and columns, stopped their activities, and dealt fatal blows to them. In the exchange of fire on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the combatants of Islam returned enemy fire by opening fire on enemy positions and fortifications on the other side of the Arvand Rud, stopped enemy troop movements, destroyed six collective and individual entrenchments of the Saddamist forces, and killed a number of enemy forces. The city of Abadan came under artillery and heavy weapons fire by criminal mercenaries of Saddam, as a result of which four houses were damaged.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,426

LD131751 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,426 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Once again this morning thedirty Saddamist criminals killed or wounded a number of our dear compatriots by firing two missiles on the martyr-nurturing city of Andimeshk and its residential areas, as a result of which 27 people were martyred, 200 were injured, and more than 100 houses and stores were destroyed.

The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its condolences to the martyrs' families and hails the pure souls of those martyred in this tragic event.

Fierce exchanges of fire yesterday continued in the Val-Fajr II operational sector. The Islamic combatants' heavy weapons fire on enemy positions, infantry and vehicles in Rayat and Darband halted the mercenaries' moves and consolidation efforts. In addition, 1 tank and 1 enemy engineering vehicle were destroyed and at least 150 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded.

At 0600 yesterday, the enemy launched an abortive offensive in the Val-Fajr II sector, which was immediately countered by the forces of Islam. Finally at 0730 on the same day, the enemy fled following the death, injury, and capture of a number of its forces.

In the Val-Fajr III operational sector yesterday, our forces fired on enemy positions, destroying one artillery piece, one personnel carrier, and one tank belonging to the Saddamist forces and setting on fire enemy weapons and ammunition.

On the southern fronts yesterday, there were sporadic exchanges of artillery fire and mortars. Our combatants' fire destroyed one enemy ammunition dump west of Shalamcheh. The forces of Islam also opened fire on Iraqi concentrations in the vicinity of [word indistinct] to Pichangizeh and halted enemy vehicle and tank movements in (Zeyd) and Koshk.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,427

LD141712 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,427 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Yesterday, exchange of intense artillery and heavy weapons fire continued in the Val-Fajr II operational sectors and Piranshahr. The triumphant combatants of Islam, while performing defensive operations and maintaining

superiority of firepower, brought enemy infantry and armored units under fire, silencing their fire and inflicting losses and casualties on the Iraqi forces.

On the Bakhtaran and Kordestan border fronts, sporadic exchange of fire continued between our forces and the enemy forces.

On the Val-Fajr III and Mehran operational fronts, the self-sacrificing combatants of Islam continued to strengthen their defensive positions, kept enemy movements under control, and brought enemy forces under fire, silencing enemy fire and inflicting losses and casualties on the Saddamist mercenaries.

An Iraqi patrol group intended to penetrate our combatants' defense positions near Fakkeh, but was forced to flee thanks to our forces' fire.

During exchanges of fire on the Abadan fronts, Gendarmerie combatants returned enemy fire, silencing it and destroying more than eight light and heavy weapons emplacements and observation posts of the Saddamist mercenaries and killing or injuring several of them.

Yesterday, the Saddamist criminals once again brought Abadan under heavy weapons fire, destroying a number of houses and inflicting damage on a section of that city's hospital.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Prime Minister Issues Message on Andimeshk Attack
LD131221 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text of message from Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi on Iraqi missile attack on Andimeshk — read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The Zionist enemy once again has turned the heroic city of Andimeshk into a target of their msisiles and once again the most modern military hardware of the ramshackle commander of Qadisiyah [Saddam] have been employed against Andimeshk's defenseless citizens. Once again the mercenaries of Zionism, imperialism, and reaction have manifested their unholy alliance for the salvation of Saddam and the Iraqi Ba'th Party from the vortex of destruction.

What aim are the criminals of the hateful Iraqi Ba'th Party pursuing by continuing their crimes? If the international legal forums, the International Red Cross, and the human rights organizations were not partners in these crimes as the masters of Saddam and the obedient servants of the United States, why are they silent?

Dragging war weapons from the battlefields to use against the people's homes and hearths — which is the ultimate in demonstrating the weakness, abjectness, and odium of the Iraqi Ba'th Party and the end of its despotic rule over the Iraqi people — does not shake our people. Our nation is determined to destroy the government of the hateful Iraqi Ba'th Party. The will of our nation, which is never divorced from its combatants for a single moment, will become even more uniformly hardened by witnessing Saddam's crimes in Gilan-e Gharb and Andimeshk. The greatness of the Val-Fajr victories and the depth of Saddam's defeat are becoming more apparent through his barbarous attacks on Gilan-e Gharb and Andimeshk. But, simultaneously, the world's last hopes in international judicial forums are cut short, and, thereby, the Iraqi Ba'th Party's chance of obtaining peace is rendered even more remote. The Iraqi people are thereby increasingly mobilized against the Ba'th Party and infidel Saddam, and finally Iraq's secret acts of servility to the United States are becoming as clear as day.

May I once again enjoin the heroic citizens of Andimeshk and the great Iranian nation to continue their resistance and steadfastness, and may I assure them that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on the side of the nation, will never rest for a single moment in avenging the blood of the great martyrs of the Islamic nation.

[Signed] Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Iraqi Planes Bombard Village Near Gilan-e Garb
LD132112 Tehran IRNA in English 2000 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Bakhtaran, Aug. 13, IRNA — Two Iraqi aggressor planes at 14:45 hours local time Saturday bombarded the village of An-Najaf, situated one km. on the outskirts of the city of Gilan-e Gharb, west Iran, injuring 7, one of whom later passed away. Among the victims an old man was also seen.

The Iraqi planes destroyed several houses and set ablaze the village's wheat harvests as well as caused damage to a car.

During the past 24 hours the air space of the region was violated more than five times by the Iraqi aggressor planes.

Following the Iraqi attack on the village of An-Najaf, the governor of Gilan-e Gharb city, Majlis deputy from Qasr-e Shirin and Friday prayer leader of Gilan-e Gharb this evening visited the suburb of An-Najaf and provided the necessary facilities for the families of the victims of the air raid.

Latest Casualty Figures Reported in Iraqi Attack
LD130050 Tehran IRNA in English 1957 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Bakhtaran, Aug 12, IRNA — The latest figures show that 57 people were martyred and another 575 injured as a result of the brutal bombardment of Gilan-e Gharb by the aggressor Bathist Iraqi regime, announced the head of the Martyrs Foundation in Gilan-e Gharb.

The official also said that the reconstruction of 12 residential units and the renovation of another 207 units demolished in the course of the bombardment had gotten underway with the cooperation of the galant inhabitants of Gilan-e Gharb.

He added that 20 million rials (about 23530 U.S. dollars) had been earmarked for the rebuilding of the damaged houses.

Warnings to United Nations About Iraqi Attacks Cited

GF131748 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 13, IRNA — According to the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Iranian mission in the United Nations had previously warned the UN of possible Iraqi attacks against residential areas and had called for the UN preventive measures against such attacks.

An informed source in the Foreign Ministry said that the UN Security Council's indifference towards the UN delegation report on the crimes of Saddam on Iran was tantamount to its condoning and thereby encouraged Iraqi regime in its aerial attacks against the Iranian residential areas. He said that the Iraqi aerial attack against Gilan-e Gharb was the blatant violation of the Geneva 4th convention.

Stressing that the raison d'etre of the UN was forestalling such crimes before they were perpetrated, the Foreign Ministry official said that it was not clear what the UN had done about the Iranian warning submitted to the UN secretary general last week, and whether Iraqi launched the air-attack, with or without knowledge of Iran's prior warning to the UN.

IRNA Reports Effects of Iraq's 'Chemical Bombs'

LD132126 Tehran IRNA in English 2003 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Urumiyeh, Aug. 13 IRNA — The chemical bombs used by the Ba'thist forces in the operational theatre of Val-Fajr 2 have had noxious effects on some of the inhabitants of the region, according to an official from Hamzeh Headquarters.

The official further said that the chemical bombs upon explosion produced a white smoke which was spread over a large area by the blowing winds.

Those who came in contact with the bomb-contaminated wind suffered from inflamed and sore eyes, the official said.

Iraqi Assembly Sets Up Military Base in Hajj 'Umran

LD132032 Tehran IRNA in English 1936 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Ar Rumaythah, Aug. 13, IRNA — The first military base of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) was set up in the liberated lands on Hajj 'Umran axis, northeastern Iraq, which were captured by the Islamic liberation forces during the victorious Val-Fajr-2 operations. This decision was made in a session of SAIRI which convened with the participation of its members in the said liberated lands in Val-Fajr-2 theatre Friday. The SAIRI has also urged all Muslim combatants of Iraq to report to this military base.

At the end of this meeting, other resolutions of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq were announced as follows:

1 - The only way by which the oppressed nation of Iraq could deliver itself from the cruel regime of Saddam is through an armed struggle against the regime by the side of the gallant combatants of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

2 - The nation of Iraq which has resisted the crimes of the Iraqi corrupt regime and its intent to surrender part of the Iraqi homeland to the foreign regimes such as Saudi Arabia and Jordan, hereby deciare that after the downfall of Saddam the Iraqi nation will determine its own destiny by establishing an Islamic Republic in that country.

3 - The SAIRI declares that perpetuity of the Islamic revolution of Iraq depends upon the spiritual and political leadership of Imam Khomeyni.

4 - In the wake of brilliant victories of the Islamic combatants in the battlefronts, the Iraqi nation should augment the impetus of its struggle and deal the last finishing blows on the crumbling regime of Saddam.

Meanwhile, in a message cabled to Imam Khomeyni following the said meeting, the SAIRI reiterated its determination to continue the struggle against the atrocious regime in Iraq, under the wise leadership of the imam, until the final victory is achieved and the banner of Islam is hoisted all over Iraq.

Three Iraqi 'Spies' Executed in Bakhtaran

GF141700 Tehran IRNA in English 1644 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Bakhtaran, Aug. 14, IRNA — Three spies, agents of Saddam's regime, were executed today in the province of Bakhtaran.

IRNA, quoting the Islamic revolutionary tribunal of Eslamabad, said that these executed spies having Iranian nationality were charged with collaborating with the Baghdad regime, being members of an armed rebel group, receiving arms and stipend from Iraq, carrying and transporting of explosive materials, mine laying, spying, and engaging in armed struggle against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Gives Friday Prayers Sermon

LD121247 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Excerpts] In his sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, referring to the war as the most important problem facing the country, said: The victorious Val-Fajr II and III operations were extremely impressive. I propose that in the coming weeks commanders of the Islamic army address the people from the battlefields as presermon speakers.

The ad interim Friday imam of Tehran said: Those who are pinning their hope on Saddam's army, those who do not take the might of the Iranian and Islamic army into account as powers to annihilate Israel should pay more attention; they should try to become more familiar with Islamic Iran.

The ad interim Friday imam of Tehran, referring to the pure blood shed for safeguarding the glorious Islamic Revolution, stressed: The world should not deceive itself; it should familiarize itself with the realities. The aggressor must be punished. Having committed such crimes, the Iraqi Ba'th Party cannot hope to survive. The question of reparations is our second point; the first point is the obliteration of the Iraqi Ba'th Party for having committed so many crimes against the two Muslim nations of Iran and Iraq.

Alluding to France's crimes in Chad and the French Government's support for the Zionist Iraqi regime, the ad interim Friday imam said: Such are the regimes we are facing in the world. While claiming to be seeking peace, they treat the inhabitants of Gilan-e Gharb in such a manner. While claiming to be trying to establish peace and tranquillity, they cause explosions in Ba'alabaak's market. This is how the global arrogants behave. They confine themselves only to talking about humanitarianism and human rights. However, when it serves their purpose, they commit great crimes, just as they have obliterated Hiroshima and Nagasaki by atomic bombs. Faced with so many proofs of U.S. crimes as attested by the many Japanese dead following the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, I am surprised that the Japanese do not oppose the presence of 60,000 American troops in their country.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, citing the savage Zionist Iraqi raid on the populated areas of our country and the superpowers' unsparing support for the Iraqi regime, warned the supporters of the criminal Saddam regime, saying: We have chosen our course; we are seeking our rights. But you are forcing us to take our rights by force.

Montazeri Meets With Red Crescent Officials, Bojnurdi

LD121316 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Excerpts] According to a Central News Unit report, deputy heads and responsible officials of the Red Crescent Society from all over the country, along with the imam's representative, Mr Ghayuri, and other clerygymen serving in that institution, met Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom yesterday and gave him a report on the functions and problems of that institution. Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in a speech then extolled the services and efforts of Red Crescent officials.

Referring to Saddam's latest crime in Gilan-e Gharb, culminating in the martyrdom and wounding of a number of our oppressed compatriots and while wishing divine retribution for the martyrs who fell as a result of that heinous deed and fortitude for their relatives, he emphasized: It is natural that Saddam, who after the recent victories by Islam's intrepid combatants on the battlefronts sees the noose tightening round his neck — perhaps he even feels that he is living his last few days — resorts to such insane and barbarous actions. He imagines that by perpetrating such crimes, virtually unprecedented in the world, he could break the spirit and resistance of our selfless and pious people. Little does he know that a nation that has risen for God and is waging a jihad and carrying out acts of self-sacrifice along the path of God would not in this manner abandon the battlefield of good against evil and would daily become tougher and more resistant, self- sacrificing and ferocious.

According to the same report, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Bojnurdi, member of the Supreme Judicial Council, also met and had talks with him yesterday. During the meeting, first of all,Mr Bojnurdi gave him a report on the work of supreme courts of appeal and on the attention paid to the affairs of prisoners and also draft bills recently presented to the Majlis with regard to several judicial matters.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, expressing appreciation for the activities of the Supreme Judicial Council, said: This council should deal decisively with violations, and the Islamic Consultative Assembly — God Almighty willing — will increasingly pay attentic.: to judicial bills so that the hands of the Supreme Judicial Council might be left untied in that respect and become more active.

Velayati Leaves on Middle East, Africa Trip 12 Aug

GF121934 Tehran Domestic Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati, leading a high-ranking delegation, left Tehran this afternoon for Abu Dhabi. Before leaving Tehran, he gave details of his trip to our correspondent.

[Begin recording--correspondent] Now that you are leaving on a visit to foreign countries, would you please, if possible, tell us where you will go and what topics you will discuss with respect to the problems of our Islamic Revolution?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The delegation of which I am a member consists of our colleagues in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Commerce, Oil, and Islamic Guidance. Our visit will start in the United Arab Emirates, then we will visit the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and then we will go to Black Africa where we will visit several countries and then we will go to North Africa, other countries in the Middle East, and finally we will take part in the conference on Palestine which will be held in Geneva.

In view of the fact that we have to keep strong, regular, and wide-ranging contacts with the Third World countries, which is one of the strategic goals of the Islamic Republic, the talks which we will have with officials in these countries, with their foreign ministers and their head of state will cover bilateral relations and international matters, God willing. It must not remain unsaid that every year on the eve of the meetings of the UN General Assembly many diplomatic visits are held around the world. This year at the meeting of the UN General Assembly, there is a great possibility that at the assembly the heads of the nonaligned countries and the Islamic conference will meet in New York. These are just some of the special things that can take place during the UN General Assembly session. The countries which we will visit are either nonaligned or Islamic countries. Our visits to these countries will cover all the goals which I have mentioned. [end recording]